

Board Recognition
February 25, 2020

CREST Awards

Denton Independent School District's McMath Middle and Denton High schools' Counseling Departments were named recipients of the CREST Award, which annually recognizes the top counseling staffs in the state, by the Texas School Counselor Association.

This marks the eighth consecutive year at least one or more of Denton ISD campus' has received a CREST award. Each of the recipients was honored at the CREST Luncheon, which is part of the annual TSCA conference, in San Antonio.

"It is a tremendous honor to receive this recognition from TSCA, so I am very proud of this counseling team and the work we're doing at the district," Amy Lawrence, director of counseling services said. "This is the eighth consecutive year one of our counseling teams has been recognized, just further solidifying the hard work they put in daily to provide invaluable services to our students and families in Denton ISD."

The CREST award was introduced by the Texas School Counselor Association in 2005 to recognize excellence in school counseling.

CREST stands for Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas and is a program that focuses on 10 areas that leave the greatest impact school counselors have on the achievements, career aspirations, personal gains and social aspects of students' lives. The program helps counselors evaluate their current counseling guidelines and techniques while also promoting their services to students and parents

The following counselors/social workers will be present to be honored:

Denton High School

Kathleen Ashton, Lead Counselor
Kayleen Langat, Counselor
Chris Lydia, Counselor
Linsey Schafer, Student Assistance Counselor
Julie Holladay, Career Counselor
Martha Valle, Social Worker

Principal: Joel Hays

McMath Middle School

Brian Adams
Brittany Zielinski

Principal: Dr. Buddy Dunworth

OAKE National Children's Chorus

The Organization of American Kodály Educators (OAKE) National Conference is an annual event occurring in a different city each year, bringing together music educators and clinicians over the course of four days and culminating in the performance of singers selected to participate in the National Choirs. There are four audition based OAKE National Conference Choirs, each led by a nationally renowned conductor. Accepted singers learned and memorized the music at home with their own teachers before going to the conference city.

They will be representing Denton and the State of Texas at the OAKE Conference in Portland, March 5- 8.

Blanton Elementary School

Amelia Coker
Megan Gorman
Madoline Haddon
Olivia Johnston
Trevor Rennels
Isabella Walker

Their director is Nicolas Miranda, music specialist.

Houston Elementary School

Patrick Estes

The director at Houston is Christine Martin-Beutner, music specialist

Board Spotlight

McMath Middle School's sixth grade science teacher, Justina Record, has a passion for student success. In only her second year of teaching, she's making an impact on student learning through her love of science and exploration. She also manages to weave science lessons into her love of athletics, as the seventh-grade basketball coach.

Ms. Record's heart for children expands beyond the closing school day bell. To highlight her energetic work with students, we are proud to feature her in this month's Board Spotlight.